



# Covenant

*The United Church of Canada*

a safe place for all people to worship

Ministers: the people

8 September 2019

Creation: FIRE °

Acknowledgement of Land  
*(An act towards reconciliation)*

## *Gathering*

### CALL TO GATHER

*The gong is sounded three times*

In the beginning, when it was very dark, God said,

**“Let there be light!”**

And the light was! God said,

**“This is great!”**

In the burning bush, in the column of fire, in the bright of the day, in the sparkle of night—

**the fires of creation**

**have pointed us in the direction of God.**

With the light in our eyes,

with the warmth on our faces,

with the love in our hearts—

**let us worship God!**

### ANTHEM

### LIGHTING OF THE COMMUNITY CANDLE

*The candle is lit*

### OPENING PRAYER

### CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

**HYMN: COME IN, COME IN AND SIT DOWN**

**VU 395**

## *Centering*

Silence and Music of Reflection

## *Exploring*

### READINGS FROM OUR BROAD RELIGIOUS TRADITION

**Psalm 139:1–6, 13–18**

**VU 861**

God has searched me and known me.

**Luke 14:25–33**

You must give up your possessions to be my disciples.

### CONTEMPORARY EXPLORATION

**HYMN: WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME**

**VU 567**

## *Affirming & Celebrating*

### PRAYERS

**OUR OFFERINGS** WHAT CAN I DO?

**MV 191**

**We are here that we might have life and have it more abundantly, so that we might share it with others.**

*(JCMorgan)*

**These gifts and our lives enable us to be a generous people.**

# *Scattering*

**HYMN: AS A FIRE IS MEANT FOR BURNING**

**VU 578**

## **PARTING WORDS**

Time has now come for us to leave this sacred place.  
As we do, may we embrace the challenges of our lives and  
our world...

*The Community Candle is extinguished*

Remembering again our kin – all fauna and wild life...  
Will you care for Planet Earth?

**We protect those of our kin in the wild who are  
endangered.**

**We will empathise with the Oceans.**

**We will be sensitive to the cries of creation.**

**We will celebrate life!**

## **WORDS OF BLESSING**

As we go from this place may we be  
full of desire and wonder,  
full of longing and praise, and  
full of the courage to love. (*Rosie Miles/bb*)  
**Amen! May it be so!**

## **SUNG RESPONSE:**

Bulletin Covers thanks to:  
**Patricia Watters and Nancy Guillemette**